

Message Text

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SUBJ: HIGHLIGHTS

REF : PAO LETTER NO.12

1. ATMOSPHERICS:

--MEDIA COMMENTATORS TURNED SLIGHTLY MORE OPTIMISTIC DURING WEEK ON GENERAL TREND OF INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENTS. HOPES RAISED BY FRONTPAGED CNA-WASHINGTON REPORTS PRESIDENT FORD'S MAY 6 NEWS CONFERENCE REMARKS REAFFIRMING ROC COMMITMENTS WERE INTENTIONAL AND CAREFULLY CONSIDERED BEFOREHAND. AND THERE WAS NEW YORK TIMES REPORT THAT INFLUENTIAL MEMBERS OF U.S. CONGRESS URGING PRESIDENT FORD CANCEL HIS PRC VISIT. MINISTRY OF NATIONAL DEFENSE PAPER YOUTH WARRIOR DAILY NEWS (60,000) SAW PRESIDENT'S REAFFIRMATION OF U.S. COMMITMENTS TO U.S. ASIAN ALLIES AS INDICATING PROSPECTS FOR NEW DEFENSE SYSTEM EMBRACING SUCH NATIONS AS THE ROK, JAPAN, ROC, PHILIPPINES, INDONESIA, AUSTRALIA AND NEW ZEALAND. PROVINCIAL GOVERNMENT'S OFFICIAL NEW LIFE DAILY NEWS (60,000) SAW RISING OF NEW AMERICAN
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MORAL STRENGTH AND COURAGE REFLECTED IN PRESIDENT'S REMARKS PLUS CONGRESSIONAL AND MEDIA REACTIONS TO U.S. WORLD ROLE.

--HOWEVER, LARGEST-CIRCULATION UNITED DAILY NEWS (320,000)

CITED DISCORD BETWEEN WHITE HOUSE AND CONGRESS AS MAIN SOURCE OF ANXIETY ABOUT AMERICAN CREDIBILITY AMONG U.S. ALLIES. IT IS IMPERATIVE FOR U.S. TO ACHIEVE POLITICAL UNITY INTERNALLY BEFORE IT CAN ERASE FEELINGS OF MISTRUST AND DOUBT AMONG U.S. ALLIES FOLLOWING BREAKDOWN OF NIXON'S PERSONAL AND SECRET DIPLOMACY, PAPER SAID.

--U.S. REACTION TO SEIZURE OF THE "MAYAGUEZ" WAS CAREFULLY WATCHED. MAJOR PAPERS, INCLUDING UNITED DAILY NEWS, SAW SEIZURE AS DIRECT COMMUNIST CHALLENGE TO U.S. KMT'S OFFICIAL CENTRAL DAILY NEWS (220,000) SAID IT WAS TIMELY TEST OF AMERICAN RESOLUTION WHICH COULD HAVE PROFOUND EFFECT ON ASEAN NATIONS WHICH "ARE AT A DIPLOMATIC CROSSROADS." KMT-OWNED CHINA DAILY NEWS (80,000) AND OTHER MAJOR PAPERS WARNED ASEAN NATIONS AGAINST FANTASIES OF NEUTRALITY IN FACE OF ONCOMING COMMUNIST AGGRESSION; BETTER OPTION WAS SEEN AS CONVERTING ASEAN INTO A COLLECTIVE DEFENSE SYSTEM AND STRENGTHENING RELATIONS WITH NONCOMMUNIST NATIONS. (FOR DETAILS SEE TAIPEI'S REACTION REPORT 2556 OF MAY 9.)

--CNA-ZURICH DISPATCH MAY 13 IN UNITED DAILY NEWS, CHINA TIMES AND OTHER MEDIA REPORTED MAY 12 RE-ELECTION OF ROC TO MEMBERSHIP IN THE INTERNATIONAL PRESS INSTITUTE. (MEMBERSHIP WAS LOST IN 1971 AFTER YUYITUNG BROTHERS CASE.)

2. PROGRAM ACTIVITIES:

--POST TARGETING OF PERIODICALS THROUGH DIRECT MAIL REVIEW OF DISTRIBUTION LISTS GENERATED TWO NEW SUBSCRIBERS FOR CURRENT SCENE: RESEARCHER WU AN-CHIA WROTE FROM INSTITUTE OF INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS THAT POST NEWS BACKGROUNDER, PROBLEMS OF COMMUNISM AND FOCUS (LIBRARY NEWSLETTER) "ALL HAVE HELPED ENORMOUSLY" WITH HIS WORK, BUT ALSO WANTED CS. INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS OFFICE DEPUTY IN BROADCASTING CORPORATION OF CHINA AND ALSO PARTTIME ASSISTANT RESEARCHER FOR KMT, UNCLASSIFIED

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ALSO REQUESTED "THIS EXCELLENT PUBLICATION."

--TESL EXPERT PETER STREVEIS FROM EAST-WEST CENTER GAVE TWO LECTURES IN TAIPEI'S LINCOLN CENTER ON "ACQUISITION, LEARNING, TEACHING: WHAT CAN WE LEARN FROM PSYCHO-LINGUISTIC RESEARCH?" AND "ENGLISH FOR SPECIAL PURPOSES." FORMER PROGRAM CO-SPONSORED BY THE LINGUISTIC SOCIETY, A LOCAL ORGANIZATION OF LINGUISTICS AND ENGLISH TEACHERS. THOUGH PROGRAMS ATTRACTED RELATIVELY SMALL AUDIENCES--85 AND 55 RESPECTIVELY--AUDIENCES ALMOST ENTIRELY KEY FIGURES IN TAIPEI ENGLISH TEACHING. COCKTAIL RECEPTION IN HONOR OF PROFESSOR STREVEIS HOSTED BY RETURNED EWC GRANTEES IN TESL ALSO HELD IN LINCOLN CENTER AND ATTRACTED ABOUT 50 KEY ENGLISH TEACHERS AND LINGUISTS.

--"VISIT AMERICA THROUGH BOOKS" BOOK EXHIBIT OPENED IN
LINCOLN CENTER MAY 9 WITH A PREVIEW COCKTAIL RECEPTION
ATTENDED BY ABOUT 125 INVITED GUESTS. CO-SPONSORED BY
NORTHWEST ORIENT AIRLINES, PAN AMERICAN WORLD AIRWAYS AND
USIS, EXHIBIT WILL BE SHOWN IN TAIPEI UNTIL MAY 15, THEN
AT BRANCH POSTS. ALONG WITH 234 BOOKS AND ASSORTED TRAVEL
BROCHURES AND PAMPHLETS, EXHIBIT FEATURES THREE SHOWINGS
DAILY OF SELECTED TRAVELOGUE VTRS. ATTENDANCE FOR THE
FIRST FIVE DAYS EXCEEDED 1,100 VISITORS.
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